

REMARKS

Claim 25 is amended to correct a misspelling.

Claims 26-29, 49-56 and 59 are cancelled without prejudice, as applicants reserve the right to pursue their subject matter in one or more divisional applications.

Claims 18-25, 30-48, 57 and 58 remain pending.

Responsive to the restriction requirement imposed in the outstanding Official Action, applicants elect Group I, claims 18-25, 30-48, 57 and 58, drawn to preservatives, without traverse.

Responsive to the election of species requirement imposed in the outstanding Official Action, applicants provisionally elect N,N'-methylenebis (5-methyloxazolidine) as the formal, urea as the emission-reducing additive and a cutting fluid as the product, with traverse.

Claims 18-21, 23, 24, 30-48, 57 and 58 are readable on the elected species.

The reasons for traversing the species requirement follow:

Claim 18 recites a formal and an emission-reducing additive, and, thus, shares the same technical feature as the formal and emission reducing additive species recited in claims 21-23 and 24, respectively, as well as the compositions recited in claims 41-48.

Moreover, the present claims are directed to a preservative comprising a combination of formal and emission reducing additives. It is respectfully submitted the formal and emission reducing additive species are sufficiently closely related that a search and examination of the entire application can be made without a serious burden.

Claim 57 recites a technical product, and, thus, shares the same technical feature as the product species of claim 58.

The product species of the present invention are directed to subject matter in which a search and examination may be completed within a narrow discipline. The product species comprising the recited combination of formal and emission-reducing additive as a preservative are sufficiently closely related that a full search for one of the species would yield all prior art relevant to the others.

Thus, applicants believe that the election of species requirement is unwarranted.

In view of the above discussion, therefore, it is believed that applicants are entitled to an action on the merits of all the formal, emission-reducing additive and product species of Group I, in their full scope, in the present application. Such action is accordingly respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional  
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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